



CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

GEOFFREY HERALD, CFO
FIRE DEPARTMENT

PHONE: (203) 796-1550
FAX: (203) 796-1533

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of 21 April to 21 May and details activities of the Department.

We have bidden farewell to now retired Firefighter Justin Bierbower in a recognition celebration held on 21st May. Justin was a member of the department for only 7 short years. He received an injury from which he has not recovered sufficiently to return to our ranks. He is an unfortunate example of the risks we take as fire fighters. He is now and will continue to be sorely missed. Justin served in the Air Force and did multiple tours in foreign theaters. Thank you for your service, Justin.

The three recent tragedies in West Texas, Boston Massachusetts and Moore Oklahoma are examples of the many varied operations in which firefighters are called to serve their communities. The recent fire on Stillman Avenue here in Danbury is an example too of what firefighters are called to respond to. Each of these is an illustration of what firefighters, career and volunteer are prepared to do each and every day.

I am pointing this out in this report as the state and federal governments debate the budgets under their purview. The monies directed to municipalities will go to ensuring the safety of the citizens of communities in many differing ways. The federal grant programs such as the Assistance to Firefighters Grants and the aid to municipalities from the State of Connecticut are not just important, they are critical. Reductions in these funds can and will adversely affect the ability of the fire departments to respond to emergencies. I urge all members of the community to support these funding streams by contacting your representatives.

May we all have a safe and healthy summer!

Public Education/Prevention/Public Relations

Crews toured Shelter Rock, East Gate, and Hillandale areas. Tours were completed at the new Whole Foods plaza and Sports Dome. Crews also familiarized themselves with trails, resources, and layout at Tarrywile Park including access from roads and with Gator while adding information to Department GPS units. Danbury High School was toured and mapped.

Community Outreach was provided at Immaculate High School and at the YMCA. A Career Day presentation was given at Rogers Park Middle School. A crew assisted WCSU staff by flooding an area to be used in a mud run.

Members attended a benefit dinner for the Alzheimer's Association in honor of former Asst. Chief Singer.

Suppression/Response Activities of Note

Crews responded to a four-alarm fire that started in a second-floor bedroom on Stillman Avenue. This fire was significantly advanced on arrival. Three minor injuries were incurred to two firefighters and one civilian. Two firefighters were transported for observation and one second floor occupant for minor burns. Six dogs escaped the fire with two rescued by firefighters. Unfortunately one dog perished in the blaze. Members assisted by staffing reserve apparatus and assisting with Mutual Aid coverage.

An MVA on the mall perimeter road required victim extrication and unfortunately was fatal to the passenger and caused injuries to the driver.

An alarm triggered by sprinkler work at 1 Padanaram Rd generated a response which provided in-depth building familiarization.

A public service call to remove a mother duck and her 10 ducklings from a city center parking lot was a delight to the viewing public, where a crew gathered the ducks into a box and transported them to Rogers Park pond.



These photos depict the operations on Stillman Ave.

Command and Staff Activities

- Telestaff meeting at City Hall
- Discussion regarding solar panel installation at the mall
- Strategic Planning
- Entry level firefighter applicant orientation
- Jericho Partnership dinner at the Matrix
- CFSI seminar Washington D.C.
- National Fallen Fire Fighter service award ceremony
- Lieutenant exam evaluator in Greenwich
- Hospital Building Committee meeting
- Mentors breakfast at the Amber Room
- Retirement dinner for Firefighter Justin Bierbower

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

This Continuing Medical Education class is held for Firefighters while they are on duty to enhance their pre-hospital medical knowledge and skills

The topics for this month's EMS Wednesday were summer type emergencies including Heat Exhaustion, Heat Stroke, and Allergic Reactions.

Regional:

An inventory on all Regional Equipment was conducted. This equipment included the Mass Casualty Trailer, the Region Five Haz-Mat response vehicle, the rehab vehicle and all of the Haz-Mat equipment stored at Engine 23.

Haz-Mat Training Equipment:

At the Regional Haz-Mat team ESF-10 meeting, the purchase of training props that would enhance the training evolutions of our Haz-Mat teams was proposed. These props include Four Gas Training meters complete with a leaking pressurized gas tank, a larger prop to simulate a BLEVE type release from a pressurized gas tank, and two leaking gas pipes props, complete with assorted valves. These props are designed to challenge First Responders in finding the source valves and shutting them off. The purchase was approved by the committee and delivery is expected in 90 days.

Communications/911 – Provisional Communications Supervisor Steven Rogers

See Department Statistic reports.

Training - Mark Omasta

Volunteer Division

Quarterly

Second quarter training is scheduled for June. Communications and Hazardous materials updates will be the main topics.

Fire fighter II

We will be running a Fire fighter II class in Danbury starting at the end of May, with a completion date of late July. We expect to have a full class with the majority of students being Danbury Volunteers.

Career Division

Vehicle Extrication

The Danbury Fire Dept hosted the Rescue Technician Vehicle/Machinery rescue course at our fire school in May. This is a 6 day certification course taught by the Ct Fire Academy. We have 11 Danbury Firefighters in the class along with 9 Firefighters from departments across the state. Students worked on extrication techniques involving motor vehicles, tractor trailers, and a school bus. Instructors concentrated on new techniques required to deal with the stronger light weight steel used in late model vehicles.

Fire School

We are in the process of installing a fixed propane tank at the school to fuel our new propane fired training prop. Once in service, this prop will allow for multiple training evolutions with limited impact on the environment.

The school facilities were utilized for training by various departments including Brookfield, Bethel, Botsford and Hawleyville.

Various Classes

We have personnel enrolled in various certification classes through the CT Fire Academy. Our students are taking classes for Fire Instructor I and II, Rescue Technician, and Rescue Tech Vehicle and Machinery. The Vehicle Rescue class will be hosted by our Department in May.

Safety Officer

Safety Officer was called in to structure fire on Stillman Ave.

Web based Training

This month we will be concentrating on SCBA endurance, to be followed up by practical skills exercises.

FDIC

The training officer attended the week long annual Instructor's conference in Indianapolis where the latest trends in training and the fire service are discussed at length.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ➤ April 22-26 | Fire Dept. Instructor's Conference, Indianapolis |
| ➤ May 1,2,8,9,15,16, 22 | Rescue Tech Vehicle/Machinery class |
| ➤ May 21 | Staff meeting |



Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

A significant amount of time has been spent working on the layout and pricing to fit out our newest vehicles. E-25 and E-26 both had broken leaf springs likely caused by winter road conditions. We are still awaiting a P.O. for Truck-1's Charge air cooler. Fit testing air masks in the Career Division is almost completed, and we are hoping to start fit testing the Volunteer Division soon. This may need to take place on weekends. Currently we are having an issue with the "bedding" of TRK-1's ladder. It appears that a location device called the Encoder is having an intermittent problem. We spent a day last week with a technician from Pierce and technicians in Wisconsin trying to make the proper diagnosis. We are currently reviewing data collected and will hopefully have a solution this week.

Other repairs completed:

- Replace battery in Foam Unit and lay up for storage

- Replaced backing plates and brake chamber E-25
- Replaced brake chamber E-26
- Repair multiple air leaks in Truck-1
- Replace lock assembly E-25 monitor
- Replaced sway bar kits in 03FT
- Replaced R-14 Relay valve in TRK-1
- Replace rear leaf springs E-25
- Service E-25
- Repair E-24 chain saw

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Acting FM Marilyn Gillotti

May is a busy month; people are starting to ask for fire extinguisher demonstrations and fire prevention talks. DFM Osborne had a great time at the AARP meeting at Hatters Park which was a fire prevention discussion as well as a question and answer period.

Continuing Education classes are winding down although we did have a couple of marshals go to various classes this month. DFM Perry went to the U.S. Fire Academy for an investigation class which was well worth the time. Telenav training was ongoing for almost all of us. CRR is now online with this system.

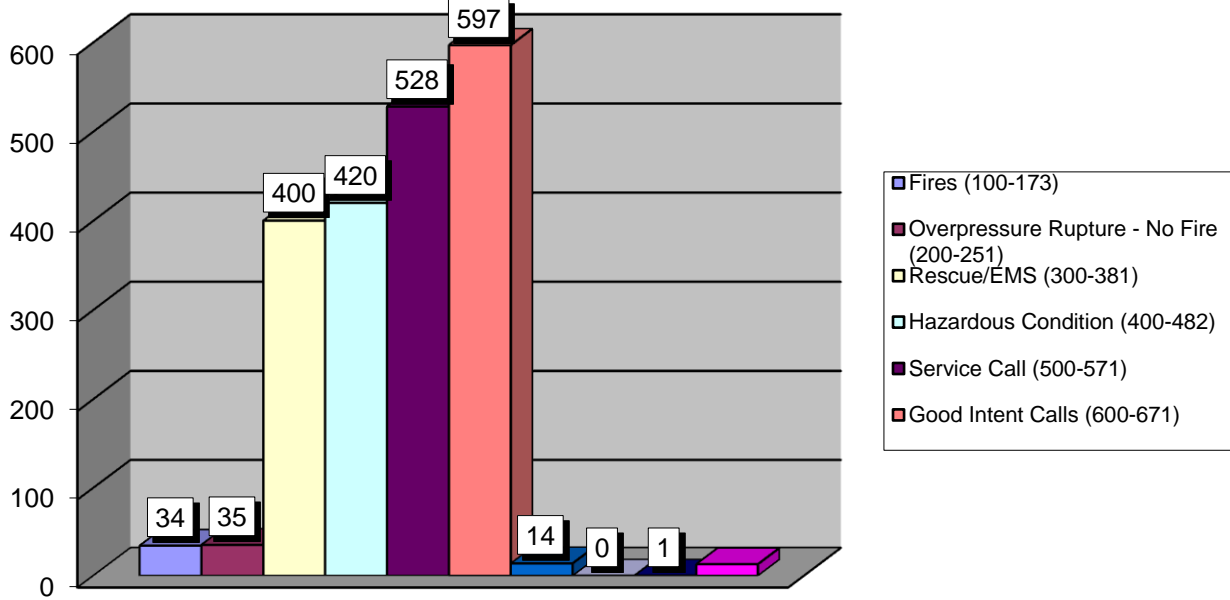
Bedoukian Research at Commerce Park installed an extensive alarm and surveillance system. A full inspection was done by AFM Gillotti. Whole Foods as well as all other stores at the Shops of Marcus Dairy are open or ready to open. DFM Perry has been overseeing this project. Plans for the proposed hospice on Milestone Rd are under review as well as various other new projects. The amount of plans into our office so far this year is approximately doubled what they were last year.

A fire on Stillman Ave kept DFM's Osborne and Leach busy with a lengthy investigation. It was initially thought to be electrical in nature however the investigation is not yet concluded.

Department Statistical Reports

Monthly inspections: 42
Abatements issued: 0
Violations issued: 3

Fire Response Breakdown April 22,2013 to May 21,2013



911 Center Activity April 21,2013 to May 22, 2013

